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Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

VOLUME 61 NUMBER 13

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FOR RELEASE
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

LATE NEWS

The United Kingdom's Minister of Food announced the weekly butter ration would be reduced from 5 ounces to 4 ounces and the subsidized price would be raised from 25 to 28 cents per pound, effective September 10.

The change in ration was said to be necessary as supplies are becoming seasonally smaller. The price increase became necessary with the reduction in allocation of money for subsidies in 1950-51. The subsidy on retail butter is currently almost 14 cents per pound. The price of margarine has not been changed and consumers still have the option of taking their butter rations in margarine.

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FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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WORLD BREADGRAIN CROP SLIGHTLY LARGER

World production of wheat and rye in 1950 is expected to total about 239 million short tons, according to information available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. A crop of that size would be above the prewar (1935-39) average and slightly larger than the 1949 breadgrain harvest, now estimated at 236 million tons. The net increase over last year's production is accounted for by a total wheat crop of 6.4 billion bushels, which more than offsets a reduction in the world rye harvest. (See table). Estimates for the current season include preliminary forecasts of production based on around-average yields, for the Southern Hemisphere, where the growing crops are in an early stage of development.

The current estimate of 6.4 billion bushels for world wheat production would be only slightly below the unusually favorable harvest of 1948 and would be, with the exception of that year, the largest wheat production reported since 1938. An increase of about 6 percent over the immediate prewar period is noted, principally because of the sharp increase over prewar levels in North America. That increase, together with a substantial increase in Asia, more than offset declines in Europe and the Soviet Union. Slight increases over the 1935-39 average are also indicated for Africa, South America and Oceania (Australia and New Zealand).

Breadgrain: Estimated world production by continents, 1950 with comparisons

Continent	Average 1935-39	1948	1949	1950 1/	1950 as percent of average	1950 as percent of 1949
	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels	Percent	Percent
WHEAT						
North America	1,086	1,719	1,531	1,523	140	99
Europe	1,599	1,455	1,505	1,550	97	103
Soviet Union	1,240	1,025	1,100	1,110	90	101
Asia	1,498	1,600	1,475	1,600	107	108
Africa	143	150	158	150	105	95
South America	281	273	279	290	103	104
Oceania	177	197	222	180	102	81
Total	6,024	6,420	6,270	6,400	106	102
RYE						
North America	54	52	29	37	69	128
Europe	766	660	710	690	90	97
Soviet Union	885	930	950	910	103	96
Asia	15	16	13	22	147	169
Africa	1	1	1	1	100	100
South America	11	11	10	11	100	110
Total	1,732	1,670	1,715	1,670	96	97

1/ Preliminary estimates.

WHEAT: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1948-1950 1/

Continent and country	Acreage 2/					Yield per acre 3/					Production				
	Average					Average					Average				
	1935-39	1940-44	1948	1949	1950 4/	1935-39	1940-44	1948	1949	1950 4/	1935-39	1940-44	1948	1949	1950 4/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
NORTH AMERICA															
Canada	25,595	22,466	24,106	27,541	27,031	12.2	18.8	16.0	13.3	18.1	312,399	422,559	386,345	367,406	490,320
Mexico	1,244	1,394	1,483	1,310	1,483	11.5	11.2	12.4	13.2	13.6	14,284	15,624	18,370	17,270	20,200
United States	57,293	54,017	73,017	76,751	60,513	13.2	17.1	18.0	14.9	16.7	758,629	925,984	1,313,534	1,146,463	1,011,644
Estimated total 5/	84,170	77,930	98,660	105,650	89,080	-	-	-	-	-	1,086,000	1,365,000	1,719,000	1,531,000	1,523,000
EUROPE															
Albania	99	123	-	-	-	15.2	11.2	-	-	-	1,507	1,381	-	-	-
Austria	630	545	540	555	585	25.3	21.7	20.4	25.2	24.8	15,942	11,800	11,000	14,000	14,500
Belgium	394	492	385	420	465	40.3	36.2	39.1	52.1	49.5	15,887	17,820	15,065	21,899	23,000
Bulgaria	3,362	3,330	-	-	-	20.5	16.1	-	-	-	69,080	53,500	-	-	-
Czechoslovakia	2,158	2,175	2,147	2,075	-	26.6	23.0	24.2	27.5	-	57,322	50,000	52,000	57,000	-
Denmark	319	151	170	205	208	45.4	41.5	54.7	53.8	48.1	14,470	6,264	9.296	11,023	10,000
Finland	230	322	425	492	507	26.5	19.0	24.0	21.5	20.7	6,100	6,134	10,200	10,600	10,500
France	12,560	11,300	11,100	11,120	11,150	22.8	21.2	27.0	26.7	25.1	286,505	240,000	300,000	296,996	280,000
Germany:															
Western Germany	6/ 2,785	-	2,240	2,280	2,530	6/ 33.2	-	32.9	39.8	37.7	6/ 92,400	-	73,700	90,800	95,500
Other Germany	6/ 1,495	-	-	-	-	6/ 39.1	-	-	-	-	6/ 58,400	-	-	-	-
Greece	2,172	2,250	2,105	1,849	2,097	14.0	9.6	14.7	15.2	15.8	30,425	21,500	30,931	28,094	33,070
Hungary	4,091	4,080	-	-	-	22.3	19.5	-	-	-	91,210	79,762	-	-	-
Ireland	225	499	540	380	420	34.2	33.5	34.2	38.3	33.3	7,689	16,735	18,500	14,560	14,000
Italy	12,577	12,464	11,860	12,100	12,100	22.1	19.7	21.1	22.7	23.6	278,366	245,812	250,000	275,000	285,000
Luxembourg	47	41	40	40	40	25.9	22.0	27.5	30.0	27.5	1,215	904	1,100	1,200	1,100
Netherlands	333	352	244	256	235	45.7	35.9	46.0	61.0	51.1	15,217	12,639	11,235	15,627	12,000
Norway	80	108	81	76	81	29.9	26.2	34.3	32.4	31.6	2,391	2,832	2,779	2,462	2,560
Poland	3,260	-	-	-	-	22.7	-	-	-	-	74,000	-	-	-	-
Portugal	1,720	-	1,724	1,717	1,720	10.7	-	7.6	8.8	12.1	18,400	-	13,064	15,109	20,830
Rumania	6,900	5,600	-	-	-	16.2	14.3	-	-	-	112,000	80,000	-	-	-
Spain	7/ 11,253	9,300	9,900	9,800	10,375	7/ 14.0	11.1	11.1	11.2	13.5	7/157,986	103,000	110,000	110,000	140,000
Sweden	740	700	780	761	835	35.6	24.0	33.1	34.2	33.0	26,351	16,834	25,806	26,050	27,520
Switzerland	183	225	211	206	203	33.1	35.2	33.9	45.2	37.1	6,050	7,929	7,150	9,318	7,530
United Kingdom	1,843	2,655	2,279	1,963	2,484	33.8	36.0	38.7	41.9	36.2	62,361	95,656	88,144	82,283	90,000
Yugoslavia	5,400	4,900	-	-	-	18.1	15.7	-	-	-	97,700	77,000	-	-	-
Estimated total 5/	74,870	70,020	69,410	68,980	71,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,599,000	1,345,000	1,455,000	1,505,000	1,550,000
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	104,000	-	95,000	103,000	107,000	11.9	-	10.8	10.7	10.4	1,240,000	-	1,025,000	1,100,000	1,110,000

ASIA															
Iran	6/ 4,191	3,283	-	-	-	6/ 17.2	16.1	-	-	-	6/ 72,128	52,880	70,730	58,790	72,750
Iraq	6/ 1,724	1,737	927	1,236	1,606	6/ 10.5	8.5	11.9	14.9	12.6	18,114	14,697	11,020	18,370	20,210
Lebanon	8/	166	173	176	161	8/	9.5	12.1	11.3	11.4	8/	1,572	2,100	1,990	1,840
Palestine	533	450	-	-	-	6.1	7.4	-	-	-	3,244	3,339	-	-	-
Syria	8/ 1,363	1,216	1,819	2,300	-	8/ 14.3	13.5	13.3	8.7	-	8/ 19,485	16,357	24,130	20,000	25,720
Turkey	8,973	10,214	9,884	9,150	11,100	15.1	13.3	14.7	10.4	15.8	135,690	135,747	145,000	95,000	175,410
China	6/ 49,000	47,400	52,818	52,717	-	6/ 15.3	16.5	17.5	15.6	-	6/750,000	782,000	925,000	825,000	-
Manchuria	2,896	1,955	-	-	-	12.4	11.7	-	-	-	36,035	22,923	-	-	-
Indian Union 9/	6/ 25,460	24,227	20,353	21,662	22,748	6/ 10.3	10.5	9.9	9.3	9.5	6/262,100	253,600	201,190	202,310	215,530
Pakistan 9/	6/ 9,305	10,028	9,877	10,824	10,372	6/ 12.6	13.1	12.6	14.4	14.5	6/117,000	131,369	124,770	153,180	149,930
Japan	1,735	2,044	1,631	1,866	1,883	28.8	25.6	23.5	25.5	26.0	49,954	52,228	38,250	47,656	49,050
Korea	832	801	-	-	-	12.3	12.7	-	-	-	10,240	10,203	-	-	-
Estimated total 5/	108,190	105,830	107,260	109,430	114,250	-	-	-	-	-	1,498,000	1,500,000	1,600,000	1,475,000	1,600,000
AFRICA															
Algeria	4,185	3,965	3,780	3,700	3,810	8.4	7.4	10.2	10.5	10.1	35,201	29,442	38,500	39,000	38,500
Egypt	1,464	1,693	1,573	1,471	1,424	31.3	26.0	26.4	30.6	28.8	45,849	43,973	41,500	45,000	41,000
French Morocco	3,254	3,555	2,590	2,700	2,900	7.1	7.2	10.0	9.1	8.6	23,128	25,447	26,000	24,500	25,000
Tunisia	1,950	1,747	2,170	2,095	1,720	7.7	6.0	5.1	9.6	10.0	14,962	10,509	11,000	20,100	17,270
Union of South Africa 10/	1,926	2,514	2,400	2,694	-	8.3	6.2	7.3	5.3	-	16,025	15,597	17,540	14,340	-
Estimated total 5/	13,850	14,710	14,440	14,800	13,880	-	-	-	-	-	143,000	134,000	150,000	158,000	150,000
SOUTH AMERICA															
Argentina	15,834	13,776	12,000	12,500	14,500	14.0	17.0	15.8	16.8	-	221,769	234,585	190,000	210,000	-
Brazil	414	677	900	-	-	12.0	10.2	14.4	-	-	4,978	6,935	13,000	-	-
Chile	1,963	1,908	2,143	2,059	1,983	16.1	16.7	19.1	14.8	17.1	31,562	31,873	40,910	30,530	33,880
Peru	285	287	300	350	-	11.5	12.2	12.2	12.9	-	3,274	3,504	3,670	4,500	-
Uruguay	1,210	945	1,280	1,307	-	11.0	10.8	14.7	12.1	-	13,256	10,161	18,810	15,760	-
Estimated total 5/	20,490	18,250	17,210	17,830	19,850	-	-	-	-	-	281,000	293,000	273,000	279,000	290,000
OCEANIA															
Australia	13,128	10,053	12,583	12,529	12,000	12.9	11.3	15.2	17.3	-	169,744	113,455	190,703	216,960	-
New Zealand	221	241	147	130	-	32.3	34.0	40.5	36.2	-	7,129	8,199	5,960	4,700	-
Total	13,349	10,294	12,730	12,659	12,140	-	-	-	-	-	176,873	121,654	196,663	221,660	180,000
Estimated world total 5/	418,920	387,830	414,710	432,350	427,200	-	-	-	-	-	6,024,000	5,735,000	6,420,000	6,270,000	5,410,000

[1] Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow: thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1950 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvests which will begin late in 1950 and end early in 1951. [2] Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible. [3] Yield per acre calculated from acreage and production data shown, except for incomplete periods. [4] Preliminary estimates for Northern Hemisphere countries; for Southern Hemisphere, preliminary forecasts based largely on acreage and weather conditions to date. [5] Estimated totals, which in the case of production are rounded to millions, include allowances for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown. [6] Average of less than 5 years. [7] Figure for 1935 only. [8] Estimates for Syria and Lebanon not shown separately during this period. [9] Estimates for reporting area only. Allowances for non-reporting area not shown are included in estimated total for Asia. [10] Production on European holdings only.

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RYE: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1948-50 1/

Continent and country	Acreage 2/					Yield per acre 3/					Production				
	Average					Average					Average				
	1935-39	1940-44	1948	1949	1950 4/	1935-39	1940-44	1948	1949	1950 4/	1935-39	1940-44	1948	1949	1950 4/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
NORTH AMERICA															
Canada	816	911	2,103	1,182	1,168	11.3	14.5	12.0	8.5	12.5	9,191	13,222	25,340	10,011	14,567
United States	3,699	3,071	2,096	1,558	1,852	12.1	12.2	12.6	12.0	12.2	44,917	37,547	26,449	18,697	22,509
Total	4,515	3,982	4,199	2,740	3,020	-	-	-	-	-	54,108	50,769	51,789	28,708	37,076
EUROPE															
Austria	881	672	640	675	680	23.4	19.9	20.3	23.7	24.3	20,611	13,400	13,000	16,000	16,500
Belgium	401	361	235	235	220	37.4	36.5	37.0	43.1	40.9	15,016	13,160	8,700	10,138	9,000
Bulgaria	635	453	-	-	-	17.6	11.9	-	-	-	11,150	5,372	-	-	-
Czechoslovakia	2,374	2,140	1,796	1,790	-	26.1	23.8	24.5	28.5	-	62,078	51,000	44,000	51,000	-
Denmark	354	467	413	481	378	28.2	32.2	38.1	38.4	35.7	9,973	15,032	15,747	18,464	13,500
Finland	500	426	375	370	375	24.6	18.7	22.1	22.7	21.3	12,300	7,946	8,300	8,400	8,000
France	1,613	1,145	1,460	1,290	1,260	18.6	16.3	18.2	19.8	19.0	29,993	18,700	26,500	25,589	24,000
Germany:															
Western Germany	5/ 4,080	-	3,590	3,495	3,335	5/ 29.2	-	31.3	37.2	35.4	5/ 119,000	-	112,500	130,000	118,000
Other Germany	5/ 2,960	-	-	-	-	5/ 28.4	-	-	-	-	5/ 84,000	-	-	-	-
Greece	163	140	140	110	136	13.8	11.4	14.6	14.5	14.0	2,244	1,590	2,047	1,600	1,909
Hungary	1,585	1,522	-	-	-	18.5	18.3	-	-	-	29,354	27,912	-	-	-
Italy	256	251	260	260	250	21.8	21.1	19.2	21.2	22.8	5,580	5,306	5,000	5,500	5,700
Luxembourg	18	19	18	17	17	25.7	24.6	25.5	36.8	32.4	462	468	459	625	550
Netherlands	560	675	454	468	445	36.4	29.7	33.1	43.5	40.4	20,394	20,031	15,046	20,347	18,000
Norway	13	9	3	2	2	31.2	28.4	39.0	41.5	39.5	405	256	117	83	79
Poland	13,425	-	-	-	-	21.2	-	-	-	-	284,000	-	-	-	-
Portugal	620	-	692	691	684	8.9	-	7.0	7.6	9.4	5,500	-	4,817	5,237	6,431
Rumania	640	530	-	-	-	15.6	13.4	-	-	-	10,000	7,100	-	-	-
Spain	6/ 1,415	1,550	1,550	1,600	1,581	6/ 13.6	11.0	11.6	12.3	13.3	6/ 19,205	17,000	18,000	19,700	21,000
Sweden	495	518	395	335	314	30.0	26.7	31.1	32.6	31.8	14,828	13,816	12,280	10,905	10,000
Switzerland	38	34	30	29	27	33.2	35.0	34.9	40.0	36.4	1,260	1,190	1,047	1,161	984
United Kingdom	16	73	61	64	72	24.9	29.0	30.8	33.1	32.2	398	2,120	1,880	2,120	2,320
Yugoslavia	633	595	-	-	-	13.4	12.9	-	-	-	8,500	7,675	-	-	-
Estimated total 7/	33,680	31,020	30,060	29,820	29,470	-	-	-	-	-	766,000	660,000	660,000	710,000	[illegible]
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	60,800	-	73,000	75,500	74,000	14.6	-	12.7	12.6	12.3	885,000	-	930,000	950,000	910,000
ASIA															
Turkey	939	1,090	1,070	1,044	1,255	15.2	13.9	14.5	10.9	16.9	14,301	15,117	15,500	11,392	21,180
AFRICA															
Union of South Africa	5/ 117	140	-	-	-	5/ 6.8	5.9	-	-	-	794	830	879	-	-
SOUTH AMERICA															
Argentina	1,078	938	1,000	1,000	-	9.1	10.7	9.8	9.5	-	9,771	10,061	9,842	9,500	-
Estimated world total 7/	101,280	94,380	109,740	110,520	109,260	-	-	-	-	-	1,732,000	1,500,000	1,670,000	1,715,000	1,670,000

1/ Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow: thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1950 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvests, which will begin late in 1950 and end early in 1951. 2/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible. 3/ Yield per acre calculated from acreage and production data shown, except for incomplete periods.
4/ Preliminary estimates for Northern Hemisphere countries; for Southern Hemisphere, preliminary forecasts based largely on acreage and weather conditions to date. 5/ Average of less than 5 years. 6/ Figure for 1935 only. 7/ Estimated totals, which in the case of production are rounded to millions, include allowances for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research or other information. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform to present boundaries.

The total rye crop is estimated at about 1.7 billion bushels, slightly less than in 1949 and about 4 percent below the prewar average. Rye production is below the 1935-39 average in Europe but is believed to have increased in the Soviet Union. These two areas together ordinarily produce about 95 percent of the world's rye crop.

Since larger crop outturns are indicated this year in most deficit areas, world wheat import requirements appear likely to show some reduction from those of the past marketing season, when world imports were about 815 million bushels. Indigenous supplies will be larger in most of the principal importing countries, and considerably larger in a few, especially in Spain, if present estimates materialize. Crops are reported considerably larger in Turkey and Iran also, where imports last season were 13 and 10 million bushels respectively. Indicated increases over last season in those countries bring crops high enough to cover normal requirements at present consumption levels, and, in the case of Turkey, may leave some surplus available for export. Though some decline is reported in the French Crop, it also appears large enough to allow for some surplus.

An over-all increase of about 50 million bushels in Europe's wheat crop may result in a further reduction of import requirements from overseas for that Continent, assuming that collections of indigenous grain continue satisfactorily. Total wheat imports into Europe in 1949-50 amounted to about 470 million bushels and rye was about 45 million. In addition to Spain, mentioned previously, the largest percentage crop increases in the importing countries of Europe are for Portugal and Greece. A small net increase over 1949 is indicated for the Balkan area, increases in other Balkan countries offsetting a reduction in Yugoslavia. This area was a net exporter prior to World War II. In recent years, however, exports from these countries have been negligible.

Wheat supplies available for export from North America may be about 100 million bushels above those of a year ago, because of the larger crop in Canada. Supplies remaining in Argentina and Australia, together, at the beginning of July 1950 were about 10 million bushels larger than on that date a year earlier. An increase of 25 million bushels in the Australian stocks accounts for the net increase, with a decline of 15 million bushels estimated for Argentina. It is too early in the growing season to have a good indication of prospects for the coming crop in these countries.

Wheat production in North America, estimated at 1,523 million bushels, is slightly less than in 1949, since the reduction in the United States crop is larger than the increase in Canada and Mexico. Though about 12 percent below the 1949 harvest, the United States harvest, now estimated at 1,012 million bushels, is the seventh successive crop of over a billion bushels in this country. The wheat acreage is about 21 percent smaller than in 1949, but yields averaging 16.7 bushels per acre are well above the 1949 yields. The current production is a third above the 1935-39 average with acreage only 6 percent above that average. Of the total, winter wheat accounts for 741 million bushels and all spring wheat 271 million bushels.

Prospects for the Canadian harvest, which is running 2 to 3 weeks late, point to a wheat crop of 490 million bushels. This compares with 367 million bushels in 1949 and a 1935-39 average of 312 million. The present estimate is somewhat smaller than earlier prospects, since heavy frost damage reduced the crop, especially in Saskatchewan. In addition to numerical losses, heavy reductions in grade are reported. Mexico, the only remaining producer of any importance in the area, reports a record crop of 20.2 million bushels.

Rye production is somewhat larger than the harvest a year ago in the United States and Canada. Both acreage and yields were above average in Canada. The rye acreage in the United States, in contrast, is only half the 1935-39 average. With yields about average, the crop outturn of 22.5 million bushels is also 50 percent of average.

(Continued on Page 294)

WORLD FLAXSEED PRODUCTION APPROXIMATES LAST YEAR'S OUTPUT 1/

A preliminary forecast places 1950 world flaxseed production at 140 million bushels, or approximately the same as the latest revised figure for last year, according to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Losses in North America, Europe, Asia, and Africa were offset by the large increase in South America and minor increases elsewhere.

Canada's 1950 flaxseed crop of 4.9 million bushels from 547,000 acres, is below an earlier estimate, but more than double the 1949 harvest. The new crop is just about sufficient to take care of crushings during 1950-51 (August-July). The flaxseed carry-over was 4.5 million bushels against 10.7 million on August 1, 1949. Voluntary pooling is being continued with the Government offering an initial price of not more than $2.50 per bushel.

Mexico's 1950 flaxseed production is tentatively placed at 1.6 million bushels, a drop of 20 percent from last year's record of almost 2.0 million. According to trade sources, more than 1 million bushels of flaxseed from the new crop had been exported by the end of August and another 235,000 had been sold for export. Prices ranged from $2.67 to $3.56 per bushel f.o.b. Guaymas.

The United States is harvesting the smallest flaxseed crop since 1946. The latest estimate is 34.1 million bushels from 3.7 million acres compared with 43.7 million bushels and 4.9 million acres in 1949.

1/ A more extensive statement will soon be available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

Flaxseed carry-over on July 1, 1950, totaled 16.8 million bushels, 13 percent less than on the same date last year.

The 1950-crop flaxseed support price is $2.82 per bushel for No. 1 seed, Minneapolis basis. The comparable price for 1949 seed was $3.99 per bushel.

Information available indicates that European flaxseed production is about 10 percent below 1949. Sweden's 1950 crop is estimated at 1.5 million bushels against last year's record of more than 2.0 million. This country is apparently Europe's largest producer with the possible exceptions of Poland and the Soviet Union.

India's 1950 harvest of 17.0 million bushels is about 4 percent below last year because of unfavorable weather throughout the harvest.

Argentina's 1950-51 flaxseed acreage is estimated at about 3.7 million acres compared with 2.7 million last season. Assuming normal yields and average abandonments, the coming harvest should approximate 35.5 million bushels, an increase of about 10 million bushels from 1949. In the important producing areas seedings are taking place under favorable conditions and with a sufficient supply of subsoil moisture. Germination is good, but colder weather will be necessary to strengthen young plants and to prevent weed growth.

Shipment of flaxseed was renewed this year with liftings for the first 6 months totaling 960,000 bushels. The United Kingdom took an advance of 803,000 bushels against the Argentine commitment to sell flaxseed beginning July 1, 1950. France took 157,000 bushels.

January-June shipments of linseed oil reached 88,180 short tons against 4,050 in the same months of 1949. Principal destinations were the United Kingdom 70 percent and France 12 percent.

The large linseed oil contracts with the United Kingdom, France, and Germany are awaiting fulfillment. Total disappearance this year may be somewhat larger than oil output. Sale of 8,800 tons was negotiated with the Netherlands. The outlook remains obscure, but most observers see little prospect of shipment above 185,000 tons this year under present conditions.

Brazilian flaxseed production for 1950 has not been officially reported, but it is expected to be smaller than the record crop of 1.6 million bushels in 1949. It is possible that Chile's 1950 flaxseed crop will exceed last year's outturn of 151,000 bushels because of the good prices for flaxseed at planting time. Government officials are anxious for farmers to increase their acreage and obviate both a shortage and a need to import seed or oil.

Indications are that plantings for Uruguay's 1950-51 flaxseed crop will equal the 395,000 acres planted last season. If growing conditions are favorable, production should be at least 3,000,000 bushels. In late August, exportable stocks of flaxseed and linseed oil were estimated

FLAXSEED: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified areas, average 1935-39, annual 1947-50 1/

Continent and country	Harvested acreage					Yield per acre					Production				
	Average 1935-39	1947	1948	1949	1950 2/	Average 1935-39	1947	1948	1949	1950 2/	Average 1935-39	1947	1948	1949	1950 2/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
NORTH AMERICA															
Canada	307	1,571	1,876	322	547	4.9	7.8	9.4	7.1	9.0	1,508	12,241	17,683	2,284	4,911
Mexico	16	93	145	134	-	6.9	12.7	13.2	14.8	-	111	1,173	1,911	1,982	1,575
United States	1,451	4,030	4,859	4,880	3,738	7.6	10.1	11.2	8.9	9.1	10,991	40,536	54,529	43,664	34,142
Total	1,774	5,694	6,880	5,336	4,415	-	-	-	-	-	12,610	53,950	74,123	47,930	40,628
EUROPE															
Austria 3/	5	6	8	6	-	7.1	5.9	8.7	9.0	-	36	36	69	51	-
Belgium 3/	75	69	74	64	-	8.9	6.8	7.9	9.7	-	664	470	587	627	-
Bulgaria	3/ 8 4/	8	-	-	-	6.5	6.1	-	-	-	52	47	-	-	-
Czechoslovakia 3/	5/ 35 6/	50 6/	66 6/	66	-	6.9	4.3	5.7	6.4	-	5/ 243	212	376	421	-
Denmark	-	23	45	32	-	-	17.5	16.5	19.1	-	-	401	737	614	-
Finland 3/	7/ 9	25	24	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
France 3/	92	81	78	96	99	5.0	4.3	5.0	-	-	464	350	387	-	-
Germany 3/	5/ 75	126	144	110	-	10.7	9.3	9.7	9.8	-	5/ 795	1,177	1,386	1,080	-
Greece	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79	98	98	118	-
Hungary 8/	28	14	23 6/	41	-	9.5	-	8.9	8.9	-	283	-	256	400	-
Italy 3/	16	45	48	51	50	12.6	10.0	9.8	8.9	-	202	454	472	451	-
Netherlands 3/	42	33	48	50	46	13.0	11.8	12.6	13.9	-	546	386	606	696	-
Poland 3/	5/ 158	-	-	-	-	10.0	-	-	-	-	5/ 1,578	-	-	-	-
Rumania 3/	42	32	37	-	-	6.5	-	-	-	-	275	-	-	-	-
Sweden	-	40	54	120	99	-	16.4	18.9	17.0	15.2	-	645	1,012	2,035	1,500
United Kingdom	5/ 2	38	86	58	38	-	15.8	16.3	16.6	-	-	600	1,400	920	-
Yugoslavia 3/	33	-	-	-	-	1.6	-	-	-	-	52	-	-	-	-
Total (excl. U.S.S.R.) 9/	650	745	1,010	1,100	1,070	-	-	-	-	-	5,350	5,845	9,650	10,590	9,400
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) 3/	5/ 6,434	3,200	4,400	-	-	5.1	4.3	4.4	-	-	5/ 32,115	13,800	19,290	-	-

ASIA															
Turkey 3/	48	72	183	211	124	7.3	10.4	9.8	6.6	10.9	349	748	1,795	1,406	1,350
India 6/ 10/	3,885	3,259	3,977	3,864	3,781	4.7	4.0	4.3	4.6	4.5	18,096	13,120	17,240	17,760	17,000
Pakistan 11/	-	76	74	74	80	-	6.8	7.0	6.5	6.5	-	520	520	480	520
Japan 3/	50	75	64	49	74	4.2	-	3.1	2.4	-	211	-	197	118	-
Total (excl. U.S.S.R. and China) 9/	4,075	3,730	4,515	4,430	4,285	-	-	-	-	-	18,925	15,180	20,050	20,145	19,440
SOUTH AMERICA															
Argentina	6,077	3,339	3,212	2,700	3,700	9.8	11.1	6.1	9.5	9.6	59,571	37,104	19,684	25,590	35,500
Brazil	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	709	787	1,575	-
Chile 3/	12/ 5	13	19	13	-	8.2	13.4	12.9	11.7	-	12/ 37	168	241	151	-
Uruguay	407	551	522	395	400	9.6	7.0	8.8	7.4	7.5	3,894	3,862	4,596	2,938	3,000
Total 9/	6,570	3,985	3,845	3,310	4,240	-	-	-	-	-	64,035	41,845	25,310	30,235	39,460
AFRICA															
Algeria	-	1	59	222	38	-	-	6.6	3.4	-	-	-	394	748	-
Egypt 3/	7	11	22	21	5	12.4	12.9	14.0	19.6	11.8	87	136	312	409	59
French Morocco	51	74	121	297	-	7.1	5.3	10.1	7.8	-	362	394	1,228	2,323	-
Total 9/	65	140	355	740	250	-	-	-	-	-	500	760	2,685	4,540	1,500
OCEANIA															
Australia	13/	2	15	31	-	-	5.9	7.3	7.8	-	13/	11	108	243	-
New Zealand	1	19	8	8	-	14.2	7.5	-	-	-	17	140	-	-	-
Total 9/	1	25	25	40	70	-	-	-	-	-	17	155	240	385	540
World total	19,570	17,520	21,030	20,360	20,430	-	-	-	-	-	133,555	131,535	151,350	139,825	139,970

1/ Harvests of the Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow; thus the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere countries in 1950 is combined with the Southern Hemisphere harvest which begins late in 1950 and ends early in 1951. Estimates do not include China where annual production probably varies from 1 to 2 million bushels. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Acreage includes area for fiber. 4/ Includes acreage utilized for combined plantings but excludes acreage planted for fiber production only. 5/ Average of less than 5 years. 6/ Sown area. 7/ Flax and hemp. 8/ Yield per acre calculated on the basis of the yield of seed from acreage harvested for seed only. 9/ Includes estimates for the above countries for which data are not available and for minor producing countries. 10/ Officially reported figures plus Indian official estimates for unreported tracts except in the years 1947-50 inclusive, when no estimates for unreported tracts were available. 11/ Prior to 1947 figures for India include Pakistan. 12/ 1935 only. 13/ Less than 500 acres and 500 bushels.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U. S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, or other information. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform to present boundaries.

at 590,000 bushels and 6,600 tons, respectively. Most crushing mills were inactive and there was no indication as to when they would resume operations because of the lack of export sales of linseed oil. The Bank of the Republic still retains the proviso that for every ton of linseed oil exported, 1.5 tons (59 bushels) of flaxseed may be shipped.

African flaxseed production, estimated at 1.5 million bushels, is down 66 percent from 1949. The drastic reduction in the French colonies came chiefly as a result of reductions in or removal of price support.

Algeria planted 38,000 acres in 1950 against 222,000 last year and French Morocco's flaxseed acreage is believed to be about one-sixth of last season's 297,000 acres.

In 1950 Egypt produced 59,000 bushels from 5,000 acres compared with 409,000 bushels and 21,000 acres last season. The sharp curtailment was due to heavy stocks of linseed oil from previous crops.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon reports of U. S. Foreign Service officers in countries referred to.

U. S. FOREIGN TRADE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS DURING JULY 1950 1/

United States exports of agricultural products during July, the first month of fiscal 1950-51, were valued at $177,500,000 compared with $235,400,000 during July last year, a reduction of 25 percent. The nation's exports of all commodities, both agricultural and nonagricultural, were valued at $762,500,000 in July this year compared with $889,900,000 in the same month a year earlier. Agricultural products accounted for 23 percent of the total during the first month of the current year as against 26 percent a year earlier.

As usual, cotton held first place in value of agricultural exports, the total during the month under review amounting to $45,800,000 compared with $38,500,000 during July last year, an increase of 19 percent. Wheat and wheat flour exports, valued at $36,800,000 against $73,100,000 a year ago, held second place despite the decline of 50 percent. Milled rice was the third most important agricultural export during the month, the total amounting to $13,600,000 compared with $6,800,000 in the same month last year. Leaf tobacco was the fourth most important agricultural export during the month, the total amounting to $11,600,000 compared with $13,900,000 in the same month last year. Corn exports ran tobacco a close race for fourth place during July, total exports of that grain being valued at $10,300,000 against $12,900,000 during the corresponding month last year.

1/ Fuller details than presented in this summary will be published soon in U. S. Foreign Trade in Agricultural Products for July, 1950, available on request from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

UNITED STATES: Summary of exports, domestic, of selected agricultural products, during July 1949 and 1950

Commodity exported	Unit	July Quantity 1949	 1950	 Value 1949	 1950
				1,000	1,000
ANIMAL PRODUCTS:		Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars
Butter	Lb.	295	186	201	130
Cheese	Lb.	18,061	1,717	6,453	587
Milk, condensed	Lb.	6,205	2,699	1,265	621
Milk, whole, dried	Lb.	5,587	4,643	2,837	2,404
Nonfat dry milk solids	Lb.	2,857	16,889	402	1,830
Milk, evaporated	Lb.	22,967	6,291	2,976	821
Eggs, dried	Lb.	2,582	4,642	2,447	448
Beef and veal, total 1/	Lb.	1,482	1,578	455	510
Pork, total 1/	Lb.	6,102	4,481	2,175	1,153
Horse meat	Lb.	2,573	1,411	402	145
Lard (including neutral)	Lb.	52,293	33,456	7,027	4,268
Tallow, edible and inedible	Lb.	24,740	48,177	1,977	3,224
VEGETABLE PRODUCTS:					
Cotton, unmfd, excl. linters (480 lb.)	Bale	231	277	38,452	45,826
Apples, fresh	Lb.	5,479	3,292	326	298
Grapefruit, fresh	Lb.	3,891	5,941	192	282
Oranges, fresh	Lb.	31,100	41,908	1,705	1,619
Pears, fresh	Lb.	3,053	2,291	319	223
Prunes, dried	Lb.	1,703	3,303	229	467
Raisins and currants	Lb.	1,862	27,466	204	1,246
Fruits, canned	Lb.	6,307	5,672	792	817
Fruit juices	Gal.	1,445	1,687	1,258	1,672
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	3,981	792	5,450	983
Barley malt (34 lb.)	Bu.	218	327	497	779
Corn, grain (56 lb.)	Bu.	7,781	6,478	12,943	10,295
Grain sorghums (56 lb.)	Bu.	6,460	4,760	9,149	5,703
Rice, milled, brown, etc.	Lb.	86,187	195,351	6,777	13,572
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	24,789	13,649	58,137	26,583
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.)	Bag	2,615	1,974	12,745	8,225
Flour, other (100 lb.)	Bag	392	399	2,176	2,005
Hops	Lb.	167	561	94	407
Peanuts, shelled	Lb.	34,724	56	3,782	21
Soybeans (except canned)	Lb.	73,200	13,079	3,042	686
Soybean oil, crude and refined	Lb.	46,217	14,679	6,422	2,207
Soybean flour	Lb.	110	255	6	18
Seeds, field and garden	Lb.	386	289	157	105
Tobacco, bright flue-cured	Lb.	20,420	16,880	8,698	8,361
Tobacco, leaf, other	Lb.	10,015	7,022	5,191	3,193
Beans, dried	Lb.	9,872	11,074	1,272	808
Peas, dried	Lb.	1,570	1,306	110	68
Potatoes, white	Lb.	10,468	35,043	326	859
Vegetables, canned	Lb.	5,062	4,914	798	873
Total above				209,866	154,342
Food exported for relief, etc.				771	823
Other agricultural products				24,782	22,377
Total agricultural				235,419	177,542
Total all commodities				889,949	762,463

1/ Product weight.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

UNITED STATES: Summary of imports for consumption of selected agricultural products during July 1949 and 1950

Commodity imported	Unit	July			
		Quantity		Value	
SUPPLEMENTARY		1949	1950	1949	1950
ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS:		Thousands	Thousands	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars
Cattle, dutiable	No.	23	28	3,656	4,093
Cattle, free (for breeding)	No.	1	2	339	560
Casein and lactarene	Lb.	948	5,150	127	811
Cheese	Lb.	2,138	3,564	1,147	1,651
Hides and skins	Lb.	13,273	30,380	5,867	11,398
Beef canned, incl. corned	Lb.	11,524	12,994	3,740	4,396
Wool, unmfd, excl. free, etc.	Lb.	12,957	31,162	8,284	20,865
VEGETABLE PRODUCTS:					
Cotton, unmfd., excl. linters (480 lb.)	Bale	11	2	1,258	288
Jute and jute butts, unmfd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	1	6	288	1,723
Apples, green or ripe (50 lb.)	Bu.	2	1/	5	1/
Olives in brine	Gal.	366	1,002	822	1,407
Pineapples, prep. or preserved	Lb.	11,193	6,083	1,337	711
Barley malt	Lb.	8,466	9,719	426	516
Hops	Lb.	1	1	1	1
Almonds, shelled	Lb.	58	77	19	28
Brazil or cream nuts, not shelled	Lb.	1,029	972	102	136
Cashew nuts	Lb.	2,815	4,164	1,142	1,272
Coconut meat, shredded, etc.	Lb.	11,519	12,083	1,717	1,945
Castor beans	Lb.	11,677	10,378	559	548
Copra	Lb.	55,817	72,899	4,022	6,072
Flaxseed (56 lb.)	Bu.	0	0	0	0
Coconut oil	Lb.	14,512	4,767	1,864	584
Palm oil	Lb.	12,922	4,574	1,734	492
Tung oil	Lb.	2,301	8,550	378	1,644
Sugar, excl. beet (2,000 lb.)	Ton	365	337	36,525	37,548
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	7,771	17,956	311	910
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	4,581	4,130	3,395	3,064
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	1,535	1,191	2,102	1,928
Potatoes, white	Lb.	5,054	2,358	113	35
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	48	393	2	63
COMPLEMENTARY					
Wool, unmfd., free in bond	Lb.	10,124	37,612	3,387	18,475
VEGETABLE PRODUCTS:					
Bananas	Bunch	5,041	4,220	5,187	4,601
Coffee (ex. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	222,183	238,189	58,348	105,153
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	48,839	58,145	8,374	15,827
Tea	Lb.	6,129	10,874	3,046	4,911
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	6,064	3,591	2,761	2,819
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	7	13	1,850	3,163
Rubber, crude	Lb.	103,459	138,889	16,650	29,994
Total above				180,885	289,632
Other agricultural products				24,069	45,665
Total agricultural products				204,954	335,297
Total all commodities				458,964	704,937

1/ Less than 500.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

On a quantitative basis, the outstanding features of the July 1950 agricultural exports, compared with those for July last year, were the large increases in exports of nonfat dry milk solids, tallow, oranges, raisins and currants, rice and white potatoes. On the other hand, the figures reveal large reductions in exports of cheese, evaporated milk, lard, barley, wheat and wheat flour, peanuts, soybeans, soybean oil and leaf tobacco.

United States imports of agricultural products during July were valued at $335,300,000 compared with $205,000,000 during the same month last year, an increase of 64 percent. The nation's imports of all commodities, both agricultural and nonagricultural, amounted in value to $704,900,000 during the month under review compared with $459,000,000 in July last year. Agricultural products constituted 48 percent of the value of the nation's imports during the month compared with 45 percent in the same month a year earlier. Heading the list, and far in the lead of any other agricultural imports, were coffee, wool, sugar and rubber. As usual, so-called complementary products, of which there is little or no commercial production in the United States, constituted a large part of the total agricultural imports.

On a quantitative basis, the outstanding features revealed by the July 1950 agricultural imports, compared with those for the same month a year ago, were the large increases in imports of casein and lactarene, hides and skins, wool, copra, tung oil, molasses, coffee, cocoa or cacao beans, rubber and tea. At the same time, however, the figures reveal large reductions in imports of cotton, prepared or preserved pineapples, coconut oil, palm oil, spices and white potatoes.

On balance, United States imports of agricultural products during the first month of the current fiscal year exceeded the value of the exports by $157,800,000. In contrast, during July last year, exports of agricultural products exceeded the value of agricultural imports by $30,400,000.---By Leo J. Schaben.

LARGE ALMOND CROP HARVESTED IN MEDITERRANEAN 1/

The 1950 preliminary estimate of shelled almond production in the leading foreign producing countries is 87,700 short tons compared with 60,300 tons in 1949 and 54,000 tons in 1948. The estimate is 36 percent above the 10-year (1939-48) average of 64,300 tons and 27 percent above the 5-year (1944-48) average of 69,000 tons. The crop has turned a little better than expected in almost all countries. The Italian crop exceeded the forecast by 12 percent.

1/ A more extensive statement will soon be available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

ALMONDS, SHELLED: Estimated commercial production in specified countries, 1950 with comparisons

(Rounded to nearest 100 short tons)

Year	France	French Morocco	Iran	Italy	Portugal	Spain	Foreign total	United States unshelled
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average								
1939-48..	700	2,200	6,700	28,300	2,500	23,900	64,300	23,300
1944-48..	900	2,200	6,500	34,200	2,300	22,900	69,000	30,400
Annual								
1945.....	500	3,300	6,600	50,600	2,300	26,400	89,700	27,200
1946.....	700	2,400	7,700	33,000	3,700	24,200	71,700	37,800
1947.....	1,000	1,200	6,000	46,200	1,100	22,000	77,500	29,200
1948.....	1,100	3,300	7,000	18,700	2,900	21,000	54,000	34,000
1949.....	300	1,900	7,700	24,300	4,200	21,900	60,300	1/ 43,300
1950 2/..	1/1,600	1/3,900	1/ 6,600	1/45,000	4,200	26,400	1/87,700	1/ 37,200

1/ Revised.

2/ Preliminary.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U. S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, and other information.

UNITED STATES: Imports for consumption of shelled and unshelled almonds

(Crop year, September-August)

Year	French Morocco	Italy	Portugal	Spain	Other countries	Total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
				SHELLED		
Average:						
1939/40-1948/49	16	1,257	517	2,578	175	4,543
1944/45-1948/49	21	2,422	479	3,642	51	6,615
Annual:						
1943-44	0	0	1,271	6,930	53	8,254
1944-45	15	0	1,218	8,061	31	9,325
1945-46	28	1,508	688	7,140	73	9,437
1946-47	34	2,054	187	950	76	3,301
1947-48	27	4,179	98	1,805	26	6,135
1948-49	0	4,370	206	255	47	4,878
1949-50 1/	19	635	10	1	2/	665
				UNSHELLED		
Average:						
1939/40-1948/49	0	2	3	100	1	106
1944/45-1948/49	0	3	2	116	3	124
Annual:						
1943-44	0	0	14	425	0	439
1944-45	0	0	11	170	0	181
1945-46	0	0	0	263	5	268
1946-47	0	6	0	145	6	157
1947-48	0	9	0	0	2/	9
1948-49	0	2	0	0	1	3
1949-50 1/	0	2/	0	0	2/	2/

1/ 11 months, September through July.
2/ Less than one-half ton.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

The growing and harvesting conditions for this group of countries as a whole have been the best in recent years. Frost damage at blossoming was small. The soil seems to have had sufficient moisture everywhere except in Spain where dryness prevented the nuts from sizing.

The 1950-51 marketing season started with the smallest carry-over in the postwar period. It is estimated not more than 5,200 short tons of the 1949 harvest remained unsold in the Mediterranean Basin. It is estimated 2,200 tons remain in Spain, 1,800 tons in Italy and 1,200 tons in Iran. The total tonnage which moved in international trade during the 1949-50 season is not known, since for most of the countries it is not possible to obtain statistics for some months after the exports have been made. The tonnage moved by Italy and Spain was large. The entire exportable surpluses of French Morocco and Portugal were sold abroad. The United Kingdom, Germany, and France were the largest importers of almonds during the year, while the United States was a relatively minor one.

The 1950-51 season now underway gives promise of being one of the most confusing in some years. The large production this year led foreign exporters and importers to believe lower prices, because of the supply, were in order. It appeared highly probable that Spain would remove all or most of its controls on exports of tree nuts and become a more active competitor on world markets. Exporters in Italy and in some of the smaller countries in late spring and early summer began to offer September-October shipments at low prices compared with prompt shipment. This lowering of prices continued until August when the bottom was reached.

Since early August the trend of prices has been steadily upward. The Korean conflict has been largely instrumental in reversing the downward trend in Italy. The Italian growers, fearing another European war and another wave of inflation, are now holding back sales of almonds to the exporters, preferring to hold almonds to cash. The Spanish Government announced its new control measures early in August which were, according to the first impressions of Spanish exporters, every bit as complicated if not more so than those of the preceding season. The result of this new Spanish control has been to keep Spain out of the market for the time being, at least until the measure can be studied.

There were other factors which have contributed to creating the present situation of large supplies, higher prices and few actual sales during the first month of the new season. The very small Turkish filbert crop which at first was estimated at one-third of last year's record is now down to about one-fifth. Some exporters reason that foreign buyers will be forced to buy other nuts to meet their needs. The Germans, who last year were an important factor in the market, have been compelled to make provisional contracts carrying a clause to the effect that their offers to buy are contingent on being able to secure import licenses. This has temporarily held up shipments to Germany.

The United Kingdom, which was one of the principal buyers of nuts last season, is reported holding back waiting for lower prices and in some markets these are not expected before late fall or early winter.

The hopes raised by early reports of a very small United States crop were blasted when the United States official estimate was released in August. France, which last season was active in the market, did not release its import regulations for 1950-51 until August 25, largely because of the pressure of domestic and French Moroccan growers. The new French regulations put almonds on the free list provided the country of origin is participating in the Organization for European Economic Cooperation. This announcement will make it possible to import freely from Italy and Portugal, although import certificates are still required. The importers in other western European countries are reluctant to start purchasing until the market is more settled.

(This estimate of almond production is based in part upon a first-hand study conducted by W. R. Schreiber, agricultural economist, under the Research and Marketing Act program, U. S. Department of Agriculture. It also is based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.)

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

TOBACCO

JAPAN'S TOBACCO PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION INCREASE; FOREIGN TRADE SMALL

Japan's 1950 production of leaf tobacco is estimated at about 9 percent above the 1949 harvest and 37 percent above the prewar average, according to J. B. Crume and G. Katoh of the Office of the United States Political Adviser to the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, Tokyo. The consumption of leaf in the manufacture of tobacco products in 1950 is forecast at 14 percent above 1949 and 45 percent above 1948. During the postwar period Japan's foreign trade in leaf and manufactured products has been very small. Revenue from tobacco accounts for a substantial portion of total government revenue.

The country's production of leaf tobacco in 1950 is estimated at approximately 204 million pounds from 127,000 acres. This compares with 187 million pounds from 124,000 acres in 1949 and a prewar, 1935-39, annual average of 149 million pounds from about 92,000 acres. The 1950 crop is expected to consist of approximately 109 million pounds of native leaf, 92 million pounds of Virginia yellow or flue-cured and over 3 million pounds of Burley. All leaf is purchased by the Japan Monopoly Corporation which controls the production, manufacture and distribution of tobacco and tobacco products in Japan.

Factory consumption of leaf in the manufacture of tobacco products in the 1950 fiscal year ending March 31, 1951 is forecast at about 186 million pounds, compared with 163 million pounds in the 1949 fiscal year and 128 million pounds in the 1948 fiscal year. In 1949 leaf used in the manufacture of cigarettes totaled 132 million pounds or about 80 percent of the total. Pipe tobacco manufacture accounted for practically all of the remaining 31 million pounds consumed in 1949. During the postwar period the output of Japan's tobacco factories has not been sufficient to meet potential consumer demand, and accordingly tobacco products were under partial ration sale until March 31, 1950.

Japan imported 2 million pounds of leaf tobacco in the 1949 fiscal year, all of which came from India. There were no imports in 1948, however. Before the war, Japan normally imported 5 to 6 million pounds of leaf for blending with domestically grown tobacco. The Japan Monopoly Corporation has indicated it is very desirous of bringing in foreign leaf to improve the quality of its present production, but it is reported that exchange control officials of the Japanese Government and General Headquarters, Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers have not been receptive to the Corporation's proposals.

In the 1949 fiscal year Japan exported only 19,000 pounds of leaf tobacco. This compares with prewar average exports of around 7 million pounds annually. It is reported that the Japan Monopoly Corporation is attempting to develop an Asian market for its manufactured tobacco products, but has had no success as yet.

The Japan Monopoly Corporation, a Government Corporation, has monopoly rights in Japan for tobacco, salt and camphor. Currently the corporation is making only a very small profit on camphor and is losing a substantial amount on the salt concessions. Therefore profits from tobacco account for about all of the Corporation's earnings. Revenues from the Corporation provide nearly 20 percent of the total revenue of the Japanese Government.

TROPICAL PRODUCTS

U. S. IMPORTS LESS COFFEE, MORE CACAO AND TEA IN 1949-50

In 1949-50 (July to June), the United States imported for domestic consumption 8 percent less coffee, 11 percent more cacao beans, and 17 percent more tea than in 1948-49, according to the United States Bureau of the Census.

In terms of value, coffee was again the leading commodity imported into the United States in 1949-50, accounting for 27 percent of agricultural imports and 12 percent of imports of all products. The quantity of coffee imported decreased 8 percent from 2,780 million pounds in 1948-49 to 2,568 million pounds in 1949-50, whereas the corresponding value increased 23 percent from $709 million in 1948-49 to $870 million in 1949-50. In the prewar years (1935-39), the United States imported an annual average of 1,838 million pounds of coffee for consumption valued at $140 million. The import valuation per pound of green coffee averaged 33.9 cents in 1949-50, compared with 25.5 cents in 1948-49 and 7.6 cents in the prewar period.

The leading sources of United States coffee imports in 1949-50 and the amount contributed by each were as follows: Brazil 1,469 million pounds, Colombia 556 million pounds, El Salvador 126 million pounds, Guatemala 118 million pounds, and Mexico 86 million pounds.

Cacao beans accounted for 4.2 percent of the value of agricultural products imported into the United States in 1949-50. The quantity of cacao beans imported into the United States for consumption increased 11 percent from 593 million pounds in 1948-49 to 659 million pounds in 1949-50, but the corresponding value decreased 15 percent from $156 million in 1948-49 to $133 million in 1949-50. In the prewar years, the United States imported an annual average of 595 million pounds of cacao beans valued at $32 million. The import valuation per pound of cacao beans averaged 20.2 cents in 1949-50, compared with 26.4 cents in 1948-49 and 5.4 cents prewar.

The leading sources of United States cacao imports in 1949-50 and the amount contributed by each were as follows: Brazil 203 million pounds, Gold Coast 193 million pounds, Nigeria 107 million pounds, Dominican Republic 52 million pounds, Venezuela 27 million pounds, and Ecuador 24 million pounds.

The quantity of tea imported into the United States for consumption increased 17 percent from 89.2 million pounds in 1948-49 to 104.5 million in 1949-50, while the corresponding value increased 16 percent from $43.5 million in 1948-49 to $50.5 million in 1949-50. In the prewar period, the United States imported an annual average of 88.5 million pounds of tea valued at $19.2 million. The import valuation per pound of tea averaged 48.3 cents in 1949-50, compared with 48.8 cents in 1948-49 and 21.7 cents in prewar years.

The leading sources of United States tea imports in 1949-50 and the amount contributed by each were as follows: India 40.7 million pounds, Ceylon 35.2 million pounds, Indonesia 10.3 million pounds, Japan 4.5 million pounds, and 3.4 million pounds each from China, Taiwan, and Mozambique.

UNITED STATES: Imports for Consumption of coffee, cacao beans, and tea, 1947-48 to 1949-50

Commodity	1947-48		1948-49		1949-50	
	1,000 pounds	1,000 dollars	1,000 pounds	1,000 dollars	1,000 pounds	1,000 dollars
Green coffee	2,676,677	655,116	2,779,878	708,727	2,567,548	869,930
Cacao beans	563,070	190,149	592,855	156,371	658,770	132,846
Tea	78,449	38,241	89,175	43,487	104,537	50,534

Imports of coffee into the United States for consumption in 1949-50 were 40 percent larger in quantity, 521 percent greater in total value, and 346 percent higher in valuation per pound than in the prewar period. Cacao imports into this country for consumption in 1949-50 showed increases of 11 percent in quantity, 318 percent in total value, and 274 percent in valuation per pound over prewar years. Tea imports into the United States for consumption in 1949-50 were 18 percent larger in quantity, 163 percent greater in total value, and 123 percent higher in valuation per pound than in the prewar period.--By Thomas D. Spivey.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

CURRENT ARGENTINE LIVESTOCK SITUATION

The pastures in the principal livestock regions in Argentina, with the exception of southern Cordoba, have shown considerable improvement after much-needed rain the latter part of May. If weather conditions continue favorable and there is no further deterioration in pastures, it is anticipated that producers will hold back cattle for fattening and curtail marketings somewhat during the next few months. The condition of livestock is improving gradually.

Cattle marketings during the first 6 months of 1950 reached 2,739,000 head, an increase of 23 percent above the same period in 1949. Marketings in July 1950 broke all records, totaling 508,000 head compared with 367,000 head in July of the preceding year, reflecting the more favorable prices for live cattle, effective June 7, 1950.

Total marketings of sheep and lambs at the Avellaneda market reached 1,507,000 head during January - June 1950, compared with 2,307,000 head for the same period in 1949, a decrease of 35 percent. The volume of sheep and lamb marketings at this market declined sharply during the second quarter of 1950, due to producers holdings back breeding stock as a result of more attractive prices offered for wool.

Hog receipts have been unusually heavy owing to the short corn crop. Marketings for the first 6 months of 1950 totaled 807,000 head in contrast with 540,000 head for the January-June 1949 period, an increase of 49 percent.

ARGENTINA: Marketings of cattle, hogs and sheep during January-June 1950, with comparisons

Classification	January-June			
	1938	1948	1949	1950
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Cattle				
Purchases on ranches	906	550	502	933
Liniers Market	1,163	1,720	1,727	1,806
Total	2,069	2,270	2,229	2,739
Hogs 1/	520	402	540	807
Sheep				
Purchases on ranches	2/	2/	2/	609
Avellaneda Market	2,023	3,287	2,307	1,507
Total	-	-	-	2,116

1/ Purchases on ranches and at Liniers Market. 2/ Not available.

Compiled from official sources.

Commercial slaughter of cattle during January-April 1950 was about 6 percent above the same period in 1949. However, the increase in beef production amounted to only 1 percent, due to the unfinished condition of the cattle marketed. Sheep and lamb slaughter in the first 4 months of 1950 was 23 percent below comparable 1949. The January-April 1950 commercial hog slaughter was over 50 percent above the same period of 1949. Pork production, however, did not show as large an increase because hogs were marketed at lighter weights.

The average price to producers for live steers was increased by 18 percent, effective June 7, 1950. The high price of corn and the reduction in hog numbers have caused hog prices to rise sharply during the year. Prices for all grades of sheep and lambs have also increased considerably.

Total exports of meat were reported at 515 million pounds during the January-June 1950 period, an increase of 4 percent above the January-June 1949 total of 495 million. Exports of frozen beef and veal during the first 6 months of 1950 totaled 300 million pounds compared with 329 million in the same period of 1949, a decrease of about 9 percent. The United Kingdom, however, received over 92 percent of the total exports in 1950, while in the first 6 months of 1949 only 57 percent of the frozen beef exports went to the United Kingdom. Canned beef and mutton exports during January-June 1950 were almost double those of comparable 1949. Exports of frozen mutton and lamb, however, declined from 71 million pounds in January-June 1949 to 52 million in same period of 1950, with the United Kingdom taking about 99 percent of the total.

(See accompanying table on following page)

ARGENTINA: Exports of meat 1/ during January-June 1950, with comparisons

Item	Jan.-June 1938	January-June 1949			January-June 2/ 1950		
	Total	To U.K.	Others	Total	To U.K.	Others	Total
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Beef, frozen and chilled	489,137	189,388	139,302	328,690	277,513	22,030	299,543
Mutton and lamb, frozen	58,230	53,400	17,268	70,668	51,843	157	52,000
Pork, frozen	8,959	-	6,435	6,435	13,294	456	13,750
Canned beef and mutton	3/75,210	25,426	33,486	58,912	63,632	50,434	114,066
Cured pork	8,126	200	3,151	3,351	68	3,279	3,347
Edible offal, frozen	30,908	21,259	5,604	26,863	28,121	3,697	31,818
Total meat	670,570	289,673	205,246	494,919	434,471	80,053	514,524

1/ Product weight basis. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Total canned meats.

Compiled from Trade Statistics.

With the increased marketings this year on account of the drought, it is anticipated that cattle numbers on January 1, 1951, will show a slight decrease from January 1, 1950. The number of hogs is also likely to show further reduction during the year. On the other hand, sheep numbers may be increased slightly after the next lambing, in comparison to the estimate of 45 million head on January 1, 1950. It is believed that total exports of meat in 1950 may fall below the 1949 level as a result of animals being marketed at lighter weights. Based in part upon a report by Cleveland B. McKnight, American Embassy, Buenos Aires.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

COTTON CONSUMPTION DECLINES IN SPAIN

Cotton consumption in Spain for the 1949-50 season has been tentatively estimated at about 274,000 bales (500 pounds gross weight), substantially less than in the previous season, according to James N. Cortada, American Consular Attache, Barcelona, Spain.

The decline in consumption has been attributed to a shortage of raw cotton supplies as well as a decline in domestic demand reflecting low rural income, due to last season's crop failure and a sales resistance to high prices. There was ample hydroelectric power over most of the season although there were serious shortages during the early fall period of 1949.

These shortages do not prevent the majority of mills from operating as they have auxiliary equipment to generate power. The cost of this auxiliary power, however, is considerably higher than hydroelectric energy and these higher costs coupled with the high cost of raw cotton and other supplies make it difficult for the Spanish industry to meet competitive world prices.

Spinners have been operating on a hand-to-mouth basis all season in regard to raw cotton supplies. Large stocks of cotton have been in port awaiting customs clearance which has been slow due to exchange difficulties. On July 31, 1950, stocks that had cleared customs and available to mills were estimated at about 5,000 bales while stocks in free port and stocks awaiting customs clearance were reported at 55,000 bales.

Total imports of raw cotton into Spain for the 12 months ending July 31, 1950, have been estimated on the basis of preliminary data at 265,000 bales. The United States again emerged as one of the principal suppliers of the Spanish market in the 1949-50 season with imports of United States cotton reported at 120,000 bales. However, this figure may contain considerable quantities of Mexican cotton transshipped through the United States. Export statistics of the United States show an export of 66,000 bales of United States cotton to Spain in the 1949-50 season. Imports from Brazil, India, and Argentina declined, with Brazil supplying less than 100,000 in 1949-50 as compared to 235,000 bales in the previous season.

Cotton production in Spain for the 1949 season, reported at 12,000 bales, was considerably below the level of other recent seasons. Prospects for the 1950 season are again for a small crop since considerably less land has been planted to cotton than in 1949 although yields are expected to be higher. The decline in cotton acreage is attributed to the desire of the government to increase production of wheat and other cereals in dryland areas and because of the greater profit to be derived from the production of tobacco in the irrigated zones.

(See Cotton-Price Quotations on Page 293)

FATS AND OILS

PELOPONNESOS ANTICIPATES SMALL OLIVE OIL OUTTURN

Olive oil prospects in the important producing areas of the Peloponnesos (southwest division of Greece) indicate that the outturn in 1950-51 will be only about 50 percent of the 1949-50 volume of 36,700 short tons, according to J. G. Diamond, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Athens. The Peloponnesos produced 41.9 percent of the very small 1948 Greek production of 50,000 tons of olive oil and 19.3 percent of the very large 1949 output of 190,000 tons. The 1949 production in the Peloponnesos was not of the "bumper" type such as occurred in Crete, Central Greece, and some of the islands.

The reasons given for the present poor outlook for olives in the Peloponnesos are: (1) an off-year which finds many trees completely without fruit, and (2) drought, plant disease, and dacus fly damage, which have reduced the yields on trees that otherwise could have produced good crops.

Even with a small production of oil in 1950 there will be a large carry-over, most of which is now in the hands of producers. In other words, the new supply will probably be large enough to meet the demands of producers and permit them to market a fair quantity of oil carried over from the 1949-50 crop. The actual quantity marketed from this source, however, will depend upon prices. The general opinion is that prices will increase sharply as a result of the small production. Recently prices advanced about 1,500 drachmas per oke (10.6 cents per pound) in Kalamata to a wholesale level of 11,000 drachmas (78.0 cents).

INDIA'S RAPE, MUSTARD SEED OUTPUT SHOWS INCREASE

India's 1949-50 production of rape and mustard seed amounted to 866,880 short tons from 4,677,000 acres compared with 735,000 tons and 4,633,000 acres in 1948-49, according to the final estimate received from the American Embassy, New Delhi. The over-all increase of 5.3 percent in production is reported to have resulted mainly from increased acreage and yield per acre in Uttar Pradesh. In Bihar, the second largest rape and mustard growing state, acreage and production decreased as a result of unfavorable weather conditions.

WESTERN GERMANY EXPERIENCES HEAVY BUYING OF ESSENTIAL FOODS

A wave of buying and hoarding of essential foods swept over Western Germany shortly after the United Nations entered the Korean conflict.

Among the commodities affected by increased demand were: margarine, butter, edible oils, and lard. Apparently there was no justification for excessive buying as supplies of these commodities were normal.

According to the Food and Agriculture Ministry, average monthly per capita consumption of margarine is 500 grams (1.1 pounds), butter 400 to 450 (.88 to .99), edible oils 200 (.44), and lard 100 (.22).

VENEZUELAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO FINANCE SESAME SEED PROJECT

The Venezuelan Development Corporation has announced it will advance credits of 3,000,000 bolivares ($900,000) to finance 5,400 hectares (13,340 acres) of sesame in Portuguesa. Of this sum $528,800 is for machinery. The Corporation is guaranteeing 1,200 bolivares per metric ton ($325 per short ton) to the producers. The acreage proposed under average conditions should produce about 3,240 metric tons (3,570 short tons) of sesame.

There are two difficulties confronting this sesame project. The first is that sesame seed oil is a high quality table oil that competes with olive oil in use and price. The current retail price for sesame oil is about 72 cents per pound and for Spanish olive oil 80 cents per pound. The real need is for lower priced oils to be used in the production of vegetable lard.

The second difficulty is that this project envisions planting sesame after the dryland rice crop is harvested. The successful rice lands are heavy soils and sesame is adapted to the lighter lands. Sesame is a difficult crop to handle because it is sensitive to wet soils and involves harvesting problems not well worked out yet for mechanical operation. Large acreages will require either numerous field laborers not available in the area or the use of modified wheat binders.

To meet Venezuela's usual deficit in vegetable oils (which will be larger this year because of the small cotton crop) the country will have to expand coconut and African oil palm acreage at least until the agronomics of the cheaper annual oilseeds has been worked out.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

(Continued from page 290)

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS ON WORLD MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on foreign markets converted at current rates of exchange.

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, U.S. gulf-port average, and taxes incident to exports

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1950	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S cents per poun	
					Spot quotation	Export and intermediat taxes
Alexandria		Kantar				
Ashmouni, Good	9-20	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	83.05	48.14	5.91
Ashmouni, FGF	"	"	"	(not	quoted)	
Karnak, Good	"	"	"	90.65	52.55	5.91
Karnak, FGF	"	"	"	(not	quoted)	
Bombay		Candy				
Jarila, Fine	9-21	784 lbs.	Rupee	770.00	20.50	5.32
Broach Vijay, Fine	"	"	"	840.00	22.36	5.32
Karachi		Maund				
4F Punjab, SG, Fine ...	9-20	82.28 lbs.	"	103.00	37.76	4.62
289F Sind, SG, Fine ...	"	"	"	108.00	39.60	4.62
289F Punjab, SG, Fine .	"	"	"	112.00	41.06	4.62
Buenos Aires		Metric ton				
Type B	9-21	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	1/ 4400.00	39.92	3.87
Lima		Sp. quintal				
Tanguis, Type 3-1/2 ...	9-19	101.4 lbs.	Sol	505.00	32.65	16.90
Tanguis, Type 5	"	"	"	485.00	31.36	15.57
Pima, Type 1	"	"	"	610.00	39.44	22.52
Recife		Arroba				
Mata, Type 4	9-21	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	275.00	45.24	5.50
Sertao, Type 5	"	"	"	(not available)		
Sertao, Type 4	"	"	"	295.00	48.53	5.90
Sao Paulo						
Sao Paulo, Type 5	"	"	"	278.00	45.74	2-1/2% ad valorem
Torreon		Sp. quintal				
Middling, 15/16"	"	101.4 lbs.	Peso	312.00	35.60	4.18
Houston-Galveston-New Orleans av. Mid. 15/16"	"	Pound	Cent	XXXXX	40.87	----

Quotations of foreign markets and taxes reported by cable from U. S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U. S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ Buenos Aires, Type B, September 14, 1950, 4350.00 pesos (39.46 U.S. cents), tax 3.83 U.S. cents.

WORLD BREADGRAIN CROP - (Continued from Page 273)

Total breadgrain production in Europe is slightly larger than in 1949 but about 5 percent below the 1935-39 average. The gain over a year ago is entirely due to an increase in wheat, with rye production slightly less than last year's total. Average yields for the Continent appear to be virtually unchanged from yields last year. Wheat acreage is estimated larger than in 1949 though still about 5 percent below average. Rye acreage is estimated to be slightly smaller than in 1949 and about 12 percent below the prewar average.

Most countries in western Europe and the Mediterranean area report wheat crops as large as, or larger than, the good 1949 outturn. Spain, Italy, the United Kingdom and Portugal are expected to show the largest quantitative gains. The crop in France will be slightly smaller than a year ago, because of some reduction in per-acre yields. A small increase is reported for Scandinavia, the increase in Sweden offsetting a decline in Denmark. Some net increase is reported for central Europe also. Moderate increases are estimated for Germany and Poland and a slight increase for Austria. A decline is believed to have taken place in Czechoslovakia, however, partly balancing increases in other countries of the area. Conditions are variable in the Balkans, with unfavorable conditions in Yugoslavia contrasting with generally favorable harvests reported for other countries of the area.

The reduction in Europe's rye harvest is due to cuts in acreage. Significantly reduced acreage compared with prewar is estimated for Germany, Poland, and Czechoslovakia. These countries accounted for about 70 percent of Europe's prewar production.

Breadgrain crops in the Soviet Union are estimated below the prewar average and also slightly below the 1949 harvest. A nominal increase over the 1949 wheat crop is outweighed by a decline in rye. Yields are estimated slightly below the 1949 yields and also below average but a substantial increase reported in the spring wheat acreage maintained production. Rye acreage also appears to be somewhat above the prewar figure though slightly smaller than last year. Yields are expected to be below average and slightly below 1949 yields.

Wheat production in Asia may be about 10 percent above the 1949 crop, assuming no significant change in China. Little information is available on prospects for the current outturn in that important producing country. In other countries, and especially in the Near East, increases are general. The largest expansion is reported for Turkey where the harvest is about 30 percent above average and about 85 percent above the poor 1949 outturn. Substantial percentage changes are also reported for Iran and Syria. Rye production in Turkey, the only producer of significance in the area, is well above average and even more sharply increased from last year's small harvest.

The wheat outturn in Africa is expected to exceed the prewar average, but may be below the large 1949 harvest. Reduced acreage from the high 1949 level accounts for the decline from a year ago. Rye is of no significance in this area.

The outlook for Argentina and Australia is not yet assured, since crops in these Southern Hemisphere countries are in the early stages of development. A significant increase in the wheat acreage in Argentina is reported, but no official estimate is available. Unofficial estimates place the increase at from 15 to 20 percent. Wheat acreage in Australia, in contrast, is down about a half million acres from the acreage of the past 2 years. Conditions to date have been reported generally favorable in both countries. Assuming around-average yields, the outturn might still be below that of a year ago when yields in both countries were unusually high.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports from countries referred to.

LATE NEWS

(Continued from Page 267)

The Venezuela National Supply Commission will grant import licenses to regular importers of butter for two units of foreign butter for each five units domestically produced butter purchased by the importer. The new 5-to-2 ratio is a revision of the previous 2-to-1 ratio (2 units domestic to 1 foreign). The new action gives further protection and assurance of a profitable market for indigenous production and is the most favorable ratio to date for local creameries.

The original Government action in October 1948 required importers to buy a specific quantity of indigenous butter for a given quantity of imports. For each unit imported the licensee had to purchase 2.4 units of locally produced butter. The ratio was changed to 1-to-1 in September 1949 and to 2-to-1 in December 1949. (Background information may be found in Foreign Agriculture Report No. 53, "Outlook for Imports of United States Dairy Products in Venezuela," which may be obtained free from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.)

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Milk production in Cuba has made less than the usual seasonal gains as a result of poor pastures due to an extremely dry winter (November to April) and subnormal rainfall since July, the usual beginning of the wet season. Pastures received about one-third less moisture than normal from April to August. The eastern half of the Island, where cattle are particularly important, has been experiencing some of the driest weather.